

## Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INR-07

INRE-00 CIAE-00 SP-02 PM-03 CCO-00 SAM-01 RSC-01 IO-10

ACDA-05 DODE-00 EURE-00 ( ISO ) W

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 1610

INFO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 626

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR NATO PO

SUBJ: NATO EXERCISE "LOCKED GATE": PORTUGUESE PORT

CALLS AND SHORE LEAVES

REF: (A) STATE 24054; (B) LISBON 606; (C) USNATO 552;

(D) LISBON 583; (E) LISBON 579; (F) LISBON 553

1. MY PRESENT JUDGEMENT IS THAT PLANNED PORT CALLS AND SHORE LEAVES SHOULD GO FORWARD. I RECOGNIZE POSSIBILITY THAT INCIDENTS MAY OCCUR, AND THAT THEY WILL PROBABLY BE BLOWN UP BY SENSATIONALIST PRESS, BUT BELIEVE THIS RISK IS WORTH TAKING. GOP ON JANUARY 31 DEMONSTRATED THAT IT COULD TAKE SECURITY MEASURES WHEN NEEDED, AND I EXPECT THEY WOULD DO SO IF RPT IF EXTREMIST GROUPS PLANNED TO HARASS US AND/OR OTHER NATO PERSONNEL.

2. WE HAVE PRIVATELY ASKED GOP WHETHER THEY BELIEVE ANY PROBLEM WITH THE EXERCISE AND THEY HAVE REPEATEDLY SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO GO AHEAD WITH IT. SENIOR GOP SPOKESMAN, MINISTER VITOR ALVES, HAS PUBLICLY DEFENDED EXERCISE AND PORTUGUESE COMMODORE NORONHA, IBERLANT DEPUTY COMMANDER HAS EXPLAINED EXERCISE ON TELEVISION.

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3. CRITICISM OF EXERCISE THUS FAR HAS COME EXCLUSIVELY FROM

LEFTIST EXTREMISTS AND HAS CONSISTED MAINLY OF NEWSPAPER ARTICLES. FOR NATO TO RETREAT IN FACE OF THESE CHARGES, WHEN GOP IS DEFENDING EXERCISE, WOULD PLAY INTO HANDS OF LEFTISTS. THEY WOULD THEN HAVE THE IDEA THAT ANY NATO ACTIVITY COULD BE CALLED OFF BY CRANKING UP THEIR MIMEOGRAPH MACHINES.

4. WE HAVE REPEATEDLY TRIED TO STIFFEN GOP BACKBONE IN DEALING WITH LEFTISTS. FOR US TO BACK DOWN ON THIS EXERCISE WOULD SEND A CONTRADICTORY MESSAGE.

5. DURING COURTESY VISITS I DISCUSSED THIS ISSUE WITH BRITISH AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS, AND BOTH CONCURRED IN THE GENERAL VIEWS I HAVE EXPRESSED ABOVE.

6. WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR LOCAL SITUATION CLOSELY.  
CARLUCCI

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY VISITS, MILITARY EXERCISES, LOCKED GATE, PORT FACILITIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975LISBON00626  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750040-1117, D750039-0176  
**From:** LISBON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 77  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 24054, 75 LISBON 606, 75 USNATO 552  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 APR 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <28 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NATO EXERCISE "LOCKED GATE": PORTUGUESE PORT CALLS AND SHORE LEAVES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MOPS, PO, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006